

## **Conformity Determination for Searles Valley**

### **Mojave Desert Air Basin (MDAB)**

#### ***Searles Valley***

The Searles Valley planning area is designated as a particulate matter (PM10) federal non-attainment area. There are no proposed projects in the 2004 Regional Transportation Plan and Improvement Program (RTP/RTIP) in the Searles Valley area. Therefore, there are no differences between the 2004 RTP/RTIP build scenario and the No Project/no build scenario. The following tables show PM10 emissions for years 2005, 2010, 2020, and 2030.

Searles Valley PM10 (tons/day)

	2005	2010	2020	2030
Baseline	0.1058	0.1119	0.1286	0.1428
Plan Build	0.1058	0.1119	0.1286	0.1428

In the Searles Valley, the population is expected to change very slowly between 2005 and 2030. The following tables show projected population and vehicle miles traveled (VMT) for years 2005, 2010, 2020, and 2030. VMT in the area is composed of local traffic and through traffic on Route 178, which connects Kern County through San Bernardino to Inyo County.

Searles Valley VMT and Population

	2005	2010	2020	2030
VMT (miles/day)	94,902	100,407	115,366	128,052
Population	2,379	2,517	2,892	3,210

### **Finding**

The conformity rule interim emissions test, known as *build/no build*, requires build emissions to be less than or equal to emissions from the no build scenario. Since the build and no build scenarios are identical in Searles Valley, the associated emissions are equal under both scenarios. Therefore, transportation activity in the Searles Valley conforms to the applicable federal transportation air quality conformity requirements.